

This introductory screenwriting course explores the elements of screenwriting in a workshop environment. Students will be guided through the process of writing a short film starting with idea generation and moving through the stages of pitching, outlining, drafting, giving and receiving feedback, and finally incorporating feedback into a revision. Assignments and weekly discussions focus on the fundamental elements of screenwriting including image, three-act structure, dialogue, character development, theme, scene construction, and point of view.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to communicate information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably, orally and in writing to a range of audiences;
 identify the fundamental elements of narrative screenwriting;
 analyze and respond critically to published scripts and to the work of their peers;
 generate story ideas and write a 5-minute script and a 10-minute script; and
 incorporate feedback into revisions.

Writing the Short Film, 3rd Edition by Pat Cooper and Ken Dancyger (available at Western Bookstore)
 Celtx Screenwriting Software (free)

5-Minute Script	30%	Week 4 (Draft due in Week 3)
Proposal and Pitch of 10-Minute Script Idea	30%	Weeks 8, 9 & 10
Final Draft of 10-Minute Script and Revision Notes	40%	Week 12

All assignments must be word-processed in a 12-point Courier font for scripts and a 12-point for other assignments. Scripts must be in proper screenplay format as described in class. Students must use the free Celtx software or another screenwriting program. All assignments must have your name, course name, section number, and instructor's name.

In this course, you will be required to submit the final version of each of your assignments electronically via OWL as a PDF to Turnitin.com and provide your instructor with a hard copy in class the day the assignment is due.

Late assignments will receive a penalty of up to 5% per day including weekends. If you need an extension for a medical reason, you must contact the Academic Counselling of your home Faculty.

If necessary, please submit assignments to the Writing Department Drop Box outside Lawson Hall

Where in these circumstances the accommodation is being sought on students should consult in the first instance with their instructor, who may elect to make a decision on the request directly, or refer the student to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive medical documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds, or for other reasons (e.g. to explain an absence from class which may result in a grade penalty under an 'Attendance' policy in the course). medical documentation be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's home Faculty.

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Please refer to the "Information for All Students in a Writing Course" for more detailed information. Briefly, remember that your instructor does not have the discretion to initiate, consider, or grant (or not) such requests; you must go directly to the Dean's office of your home faculty.